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## TITLE OF INVENTION

COLOR DIFFERENCE HUE CONTROL SYSTEM

## APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US

ROBERT DALE ALTMANSHOFER AND WILLIAM ADAMSON LAGONI

Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:

1. ☒ This is a **FIRST** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
2. ☐ This is a **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
3. ☒ This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. 371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(1).
4. ☒ A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date.
5. ☒ A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371 (c) (2))
  - a. ☐ is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
  - b. ☒ has been transmitted by the International Bureau.
  - c. ☐ is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).
6. ☐ A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).
7. ☐ A copy of the International Search Report (PCT/ISA/210).
8. ☒ Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3))
  - a. ☐ are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
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  - c. ☐ have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.
  - d. ☒ have not been made and will not be made.
9. ☐ A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).
10. ☐ An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(4)).
11. ☒ A copy of the International Preliminary Examination Report (PCT/IPEA/409).
12. ☐ A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(5)).

## Items 13 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included:

13. ☒ An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
14. ☐ An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.
15. ☐ A **FIRST** preliminary amendment.
16. ☐ A **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** preliminary amendment.
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## COLOR DIFFERENCE HUE CONTROL SYSTEM

### FIELD OF THE INVENTION

5 The invention relates to control systems for controlling video signal characteristics.

### BACKGROUND

10 In traditional NTSC color television receivers, the television viewer controls the hue of the color by phase shifting the subcarrier reference signals applied to chroma demodulators. This results in a rotation of the "phase plot" of the chroma signal with an attendant hue shift of the demodulated color difference signals. This is illustrated, for example, 15 in Fig. 1 showing the results from rotation of a "phase plot" of a chroma signal with the attendant hue shift of the demodulated color difference signals in the context of a traditional NTSC color television receiver. Several representative colors, namely, red, blue and green, are illustrated in a polar plot. It should be noted that the chroma amplitude represented by the length of the color vectors is substantially unaltered by the hue shift.

20 The foregoing worked well in the context of traditional NTSC color television receivers, but with advances towards IDTV, EDTV and HDTV as well as evolutions in PAL and SECAM towards customer controls like NTSC products, it becomes desirable to accomplish color (i.e. saturation) and tint (i.e., hue) controls on the base band color difference signals themselves.

25 The prior art includes a number of efforts to adjust color hue and saturation in a variety of different contexts. One example is described in U.S. Patent 4,788,586 issued on November 29, 1988 to Robert R. Eckenbrecht and entitled "Controller for Adjusting Color Hue and Saturation of Images Generated from Signals in a Non-Broadcasting Video System." Eckenbrecht describes a color tint controller for a closed circuit video system which receives red 30 and blue color difference signals and selectively changes the amplitude of those signals to adjust the color of a displayed image. Other U.S. patents that may be relevant to the adjustment of hue and color saturation include U.S. Patent Nos. 4,528,586; 4,554,576 and 4,562,460.

Controlling tint by processing color difference signals may cause a problem. Specifically, processing color difference signals for providing tint control over a wide range of hue shift angles may result in undesirable color amplitude variations.

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## SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In accordance with one aspect of the invention, the invention involves providing for selecting a particular hue characteristic within a range of selectable hue characteristics and processing color difference signals for controlling a hue characteristic and a saturation  
10 characteristic of a video signal so that the saturation characteristic has a substantially constant amplitude over the range of selectable hue characteristics.

In accordance with another aspect of the invention, color difference signals are modified as a function of each other and as a function of a hue shift angle  $\theta$  to produce modified color difference signals representing a color vector whose amplitude stays substantially constant  
15 over a relatively wide range of hue shift angles  $\theta$ .

In accordance with another aspect of the invention, a first color difference signal provides a first input to a first multiplier circuit and to a first input of a third multiplier circuit. A second color difference signal provides a first input to a second multiplier circuit and to a first input of a fourth multiplier circuit. A control signal generator produces a pair of control signals  
20 that are each sinusoidal functions of the hue (i.e., tint) shift angle  $\theta$ . The first control signal is provided as a second input to each of the first and fourth multipliers. The second control signal is provided as a second input to each of the second and third multipliers. Outputs of the first and second multipliers provide a pair of positive inputs to a first adder circuit whose output produces a first modified color difference signal. An output from the third multiplier provides a positive  
25 input to a second adder and the output from the fourth multiplier provides a negative input to the second adder. The output of the second adder produces a second modified color difference signal. The first and second modified color difference signals represent a color vector having substantially constant amplitude over a wide range of hue shift angles.

In accordance with another aspect of the invention, the control signal generator  
30 includes a lookup table for providing values of the first and second control signals that are a sinusoidal function of the hue shift angle over a wide range of hue shift angles.

In accordance with another aspect of the invention, the control signal generator provides a linear approximation of a sinusoidal function of the hue shift angle for generating the control signal values.

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

The invention will be explained with reference to the drawing in which:

Fig. 1 is a diagram showing the results of the rotation of the phase plot of a modulated chroma signal and the attendant hue shift of the associated demodulated color difference signals in a video signal processing system;

Fig. 2 shows an embodiment of an analog or digital apparatus for modifying color difference signals in such a way that modified color difference signals produced at the output represent a color amplitude that remains relatively constant over a range of hue shift angles;

Fig. 3 is a diagram illustrating how the amplitudes of the color vectors remain relatively constant as the hue shift angle  $\theta$  varies;

Fig. 4 is a schematic illustration of a second embodiment of the invention;

Fig. 5 is a schematic diagram of another embodiment of the invention; and

Fig. 6 is a diagram illustrating the manner in which the amplitude  $A$  of the color signal can be kept substantially constant over a wide range of hue shift angles.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

During the course of this description, like designations or numbers will be used to identify like elements according to the different figures which illustrate the invention.

Fig. 2 is a block diagram illustrating an embodiment of a tint control system which operates as shown by the vector plot of Fig. 3.

The system shown in Figs. 2 and 3 are linear which result in vector summation of the [R-Y] and [B-Y] components. As a result, the amplitude of the resulting output vector, i.e., the color amplitude or saturation characteristic of the color vector, changes as a function of the hue control setting. For a  $45^\circ$  hue shift  $\theta$  from nominal, the output amplitude increases approximately 40%. An embodiment providing compensation for this effect is illustrated in the block diagram of Fig. 5. Ideally, it is desirable for the output to remain of constant amplitude

versus the hue control voltage. It has been discovered that it is possible to compensate for amplitude changes over a wide range of hue shift angles by controlling the color saturation by coupling the absolute value change of the hue control voltage from nominal into the color control. A detailed explanation of the compensation feature follows.

A color vector  $V$  can be defined as:

$$V \equiv A / \theta$$

having an amplitude (color or saturation)  $A$  and a phase (or hue) angle  $\theta$ .

A phase shifted vector  $V'$  having the same amplitude  $A$  can be defined as:

$$V' \equiv A / \theta + \theta'$$

where  $\theta'$  is the change in phase or hue which would result from a change of the hue control.

In a color difference representation having an [R-Y], [B-Y] coordinate system ( $X$  and  $Y$  axes, respectively, in the color difference plane), the components of vectors  $V$  and  $V'$  are then:

$$[R-Y] = A \sin \theta \quad [1]$$

$$[B-Y] = A \cos \theta \quad [2]$$

and

$$[R-Y]' = A \sin (\theta + \theta') \quad [3]$$

$$[B-Y]' = A \cos (\theta + \theta'). \quad [4]$$

The following identities:

$$\sin (X + Y) = \sin X \cos Y + \cos X \sin Y; \text{ and}$$

$$\cos (X + Y) = \cos X \cos Y - \sin X \sin Y,$$

make it is possible to rewrite [3] and [4] using [1] and [2] as:

$$[B-Y]' = \cos \theta' [B-Y] - \sin \theta' [R-Y] \quad [5]$$

and

$$[R-Y]' = \sin \theta' [B-Y] + \cos \theta' [R-Y]. \quad [6]$$

Equations [5] and [6] represent the  $[R-Y]$  and  $[B-Y]$  components of a rotated vector  $V'$  in the color difference plane having the same amplitude  $A$  as the non-rotated vector  $V$ . Equations [5] and [6] show that it is possible to keep the amplitude of rotated vector  $V'$  constant by multiplying (gain controlling) each of the  $[R-Y]$  and  $[B-Y]$  color difference components by a value that is a function of the hue shift angle  $\theta'$  before combining the  $[R-Y]$  and  $[B-Y]$  components to produce modified color difference components  $[R-Y]'$  and  $[B-Y]'$ . The multiplication or gain control factor in equations [5] and [6] is related to the hue shift angle  $\theta'$  by a non-linear function, i.e., sinusoidally related to the hue shift angle. That is, the modified color difference signals  $[R-Y]'$  and  $[B-Y]'$  that represent the shifted vector  $V'$  are combinations of the original color difference components  $[R-Y]$  and  $[B-Y]$  modified by sinusoidal functions of the hue shift angle.

As explained further below, in a digital implementation, a ROM lookup table can be used to implement the sinusoidal functions, i.e., provide sine and cosine values corresponding to each value of  $\theta'$ . Using precise sine and cosine values from a lookup table permits implementing the ideal relationships set forth in equations [5] and [6]. As a result, it is possible to maintain the amplitude of the rotated vector, i.e., the saturation characteristic, substantially constant over the full range of selectable hue shift values. Alternatively, only a limited range hue shift angles  $\theta'$  may be needed. If so, approximations for non-linear functions such as sine and cosine may be used. For example, it is possible to use the following linear approximations for sine and cosine:

$$\cos \theta' \rightarrow 1 - K_2 |\theta'| \text{ and}$$

$$\sin \theta' \rightarrow K_1 \theta'$$

where  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  are constants.  $\theta'$  is now the target phase shift in degrees due to the use of the approximations.

Using these approximations in equations [5] and [6] produces:

$$[\overline{B-Y}]' = (1 - K_2|\theta'|) [B-Y] - K_1\theta' [R-Y] \quad [7]$$

and

$$[\overline{R-Y}]' = K_1\theta' [B-Y] + (1 - K_2|\theta'|) [R-Y] \quad [8]$$

where  $[\overline{R-Y}]'$  and  $[\overline{B-Y}]'$  are approximations of modified color difference components that represent the ideally rotated vector  $V'$  having the following amplitude and phase:

$$\overline{A}' = \sqrt{([\overline{R-Y}]')^2 + ([\overline{B-Y}]')^2} \quad [9]$$

and

$$\overline{\theta}' = \tan^{-1} \left[ \frac{[\overline{R-Y}]'}{[\overline{B-Y}]'} \right] \quad [10]$$

If  $K_2$  is equal to or approaches 0, it can be seen that the relationships in equations [7] and [8] become effectively the same as those implemented by the circuit of Fig. 2.

Fig. 6 illustrates the result of comparing the embodiment of Fig. 2 with the embodiment illustrated in Fig. 5. For the embodiment in Fig. 5, the values for  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  are:

$$K_1 = 0.78/45 \quad \text{and} \quad K_2 = 0.21/45$$

for  $\theta$  in degrees. As shown in Figure 6, the embodiment of Fig. 2, where  $K_1$  equals 0.77/45 and  $K_2$  equals 0, produces a change of approximately 16% in the color amplitude vector when the range of hue shift angles is at  $\pm 30^\circ$ . The embodiment in Fig. 5, however, where  $K_1$  equals 0.78/45 and  $K_2$  equals 0.21/45, produces an amplitude variation of 3.4% over the same  $\pm 30^\circ$  hue shift angle variation.



The values  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  are determined empirically using an exemplary computer program written in QBASIC that is shown in Table 1. An example of the optimization procedure performed by the program follows.  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  in equations [7] and [8] are used in linear approximations of sine and cosine functions. As such,  $\theta$  in equations [7] and [8] is only a target for the tint shift. The actual resulting tint shift is given by equation [10]. Solving for  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  involves first bounding  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  to some reasonable values. In the program shown in Table 1, certain boundary conditions and iteration step sizes are used, but other values for the boundary conditions and step sizes are possible. Specifically, in the program shown in Table 1, the boundary values used for  $K_1$  are 0.5/45 to 0.8/45 and for  $K_2$  are 0.1/45 to 0.7/45. The program steps the target tint range of  $\theta$  over a broad range of  $\pm 75^\circ$  in  $5^\circ$  steps. For each step, the program loops through possible combinations of  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  finding the combination which gives the minimum amplitude change across a range which is less than or equal to the desired tint range value (see parameter "TintRangeDesired" in line 250 of the program in Table 1). The program outputs optimum values for  $K_1$  and  $K_2$ .

Fig. 4 illustrates an embodiment of a control system incorporating both color and tint functions. Amplifiers A1 and A2 are gain controlled differential output amplifiers having at least one current source output each. Amplifiers A1 and A2 accomplish the color control (gain) function and by virtue of the current mode outputs which allow summers S1 and S2 to operate efficiently. Amplifiers A1 and A2 could alternatively be two-quadrant multipliers. The differential outputs are necessary to provide one output as a color controlled input to the tint multiplier and the other as the output for summation of currents from the cross-coupled (tint) multipliers. The multipliers M1 and M2 are preferably four quadrant devices having current mode outputs for accomplishing the required summations.

In an embodiment shown in Fig. 5, a first color difference signal [B-Y] is fed as a first input to multipliers M1 and M3. A second color difference signal [R-Y] is fed as another first input to a second pair of multipliers M2 and M4. A control signal generator produces a pair of outputs comprising  $\sin \theta$  and  $\cos \theta$  from the original hue shift angle  $\theta$ .  $\sin \theta$  provides a second input to multipliers M1 and M4, whereas  $\cos \theta$  provides a second input to multipliers M2 and M3. The outputs of multipliers M1 and M2 provide a first and second positive input, respectively, to adder A1 which produces a first modified color difference signal [R-Y]'. Similarly, the output from multiplier M3 provides a first positive input to adder A2, whereas the

output from multiplier M4 provides a second, negative input to adder A2 which produces, as a result, a second modified color difference signal  $[B-Y]'$ . The modified color difference signals  $[R-Y]'$  and  $[B-Y]'$  replace the original color difference signals  $[R-Y]$  and  $[B-Y]$  in a video signal processing system to provide a tint controlled video signal. When employed in this fashion, the color chroma vector amplitude A remains at a substantially constant value over a wide range of hue shift angles  $\theta$

The control signal generator in Fig. 5 produces control signals representing hue shift values that can be controlled, e.g., by a user-controlled tint control. For example, Fig. 5 shows a microprocessor (uP) coupled to the control signal generator via a data bus such as the well-known IIC or I2C data bus. The microprocessor receives and processes commands from a user-operated remote control. In a typical television system, in response to a user activation of a particular key of the remote control, the microprocessor will generate a graphics display signal that when coupled to a display device (not shown in Fig. 5) will produce, for example, a displayed menu (on-screen display or OSD) from which a user can select to control certain characteristics of the television system. One such characteristic is tint. After selecting tint control from the OSD menu, the user operates one or more keys of the remote control to vary the tint setting. The microprocessor detects the remote control signals indicating the tint modifications and generates the required control signals on the I2C bus to cause the control signal generator to generate control signals  $\sin\theta$  and  $\cos\theta$  that produce the desired tint modification.

The functions of the multipliers M1 - M4, summers S1 and S2, adders A1 and A2 and the control voltage generator, can be realized using either analog or digital implementations. For example, in a digital implementation, the outputs for the control voltage generator can be generated from a ROM look-up table. In a fully digital system in which the color difference signals are digital data streams, digital multipliers can be used to multiply the color difference signals by the control signal values and digital adders can be used to combine the multiplier outputs to produce digital modified color difference signal data streams. If the color difference signals are analog and analog multipliers and adders are used, the ROM output can be converted to an analog value using a digital to analog converter (DAC). Alternatively, analog control signal generator outputs can be generated from DACs having input registers into which digital values representing the desired hue angle are loaded by the microprocessor via the I2C bus, e.g., the DAC input registers may be memory mapped registers. In an analog system, an

10 need for plural multipliers, it may be desirable to implement the described embodiments using one or more integrated circuits (IC).

15 without departing from the spirit and scope thereof.

Case	Age	Sex	Duration	Site	Histology	Immunohistochemistry	Molecular biology	Prognosis	Treatment	Outcome	Follow-up	Comments
1	45	F	10 years	Rectum	Adenocarcinoma	CK20+, CK7+	HER2/neu+	Good	Chemotherapy	Alive	10 years	First case
2	52	M	5 years	Colon	Adenocarcinoma	CK20+, CK7+	HER2/neu-	Good	Chemotherapy	Alive	5 years	Second case
3	60	F	8 years	Rectum	Adenocarcinoma	CK20+, CK7+	HER2/neu+	Good	Chemotherapy	Alive	8 years	Third case
4	58	M	12 years	Colon	Adenocarcinoma	CK20+, CK7+	HER2/neu-	Good	Chemotherapy	Alive	12 years	Fourth case
5	65	F	15 years	Rectum	Adenocarcinoma	CK20+, CK7+	HER2/neu+	Good	Chemotherapy	Alive	15 years	Fifth case
6	70	M	18 years	Colon	Adenocarcinoma	CK20+, CK7+	HER2/neu-	Good	Chemotherapy	Alive	18 years	Sixth case
7	75	F	20 years	Rectum	Adenocarcinoma	CK20+, CK7+	HER2/neu+	Good	Chemotherapy	Alive	20 years	Seventh case
8	80	M	22 years	Colon	Adenocarcinoma	CK20+, CK7+	HER2/neu-	Good	Chemotherapy	Alive	22 years	Eighth case
9	85	F	25 years	Rectum	Adenocarcinoma	CK20+, CK7+	HER2/neu+	Good	Chemotherapy	Alive	25 years	Ninth case
10	90	M	28 years	Colon	Adenocarcinoma	CK20+, CK7+	HER2/neu-	Good	Chemotherapy	Alive	28 years	Tenth case

TABLE 1

## CLAIMS

1. Apparatus comprising:  
a source of first and second color difference signals (B-Y, R-Y), said  
first and second color difference signals being associated with a color signal  
having an amplitude and a phase;  
a signal processor (M1; M2; M3; M4; A1; A2) coupled to said  
source, said signal processor processing said first and second color difference  
signals to produce a phase shift ( $\theta$ ) of said color signal in response to a control  
signal; and  
control means (Control Voltage Generator) for generating said  
control signal in response to a user command to change the hue of said color  
signal, characterized in that  
said control means provides as control signals linear approximations  
of non-linear functions used to produce said phase shift whereby said signal  
processor produces an amount of phase shift in response to said linear  
approximations.
2. The apparatus of claim 1, characterized in that said linear  
approximations are associated with the value of sine  $\theta$  and cosine  $\theta$  wherein  $\theta$   
corresponds to an amount of phase shift of said color signal.
3. The apparatus of claim 2, characterized in that said linear  
approximations approximate sine  $\theta$  as  $K_1 \theta$ , and cosine  $\theta$  as  $1 - K_2 \theta$ , wherein  $K_1$  is  
equal to about .78/45 and  $K_2$  is equal to about .21/45.
4. The apparatus of claim 2, characterized in that said linear  
approximations are provided when said phase shift is in the range between about  
 $\pm 30^\circ$ .
5. The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the signal processor comprises  
first (M1), second (M2), third (M3), and fourth (M4) multipliers and first (A1) and  
second (A2) adders, said control means generating first and second control  
signals, said first color difference signal (B-Y) being provided to a first input of  
said first multiplier and to a first input of said third multiplier, said second color  
difference signal (R-Y) being provided to a first input of said second multiplier and  
to a first input of a fourth multiplier, said first control signal being provided to a  
second input of each of said first and fourth multipliers, said second control

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signal being provided to a second input of each of said second and third multipliers, an output of said first multiplier and an output of the second multiplier being coupled to respective inputs of said first adder for summing the outputs of the first and second multiplier for producing a first modified color difference signal, an output of said third multiplier and an output of said fourth multiplier being coupled to respective inputs of said second adder for subtracting the output of said fourth multiplier from the output of said third multiplier for producing a second modified color difference signal, said first and second modified color difference signals representing a color vector having said phase shift.

6. The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the control means generates said first and second control signals corresponding to  $\sin \theta$  and  $\cos \theta$ , respectively, to cause said signal processor to produce said phase shift.

7. The apparatus of claim 5, characterized in that said linear approximations approximate  $\sin \theta$  as  $K_1 \theta$ , and  $\cos \theta$  as  $1 - K_2 \theta$  wherein  $K_1$  is equal to about .78/45 and  $K_2$  is equal to about .21/45.

8. The apparatus of claim 5, characterized in that said linear approximations are provided when said phase shift is in the range between about  $\pm 30^\circ$ .

## ABSTRACT

A color television receiver system processes color difference signals for providing tint control while maintaining uniform color amplitude with respect to changes in hue shift angle. The color difference signals are modified as a function of each other and as a function of a hue shift angle to produce modified color difference signals. A color difference signal [B-Y] is supplied as a first input to multipliers M1 and M3. Another color difference signal [R-Y] is supplied as a first input to another pair of multipliers M2 and M4. A control signal generator produces output signals  $\sin \theta$  and  $\cos \theta$  where  $\theta$  is the hue shift angle. The  $\sin \theta$  signal is supplied as a second input to multipliers M1 and M4 while the  $\cos \theta$  signal is supplied as a second input to multipliers M2 and M3. The outputs of M1 and M2 are added in an adder A1 to produce a modified output [R-Y]'. Similarly, the output of multiplier M3 is provided as a positive input to adder A2 whereas the output of multiplier M4 is provided as a negative input to adder A2 to produce a modified color difference signal [B-Y]'. The modified color difference signals [R-Y]' and [B-Y]' represent a color vector having an amplitude A that remains substantially constant over a relatively wide range of hue shift angles  $\theta$ .

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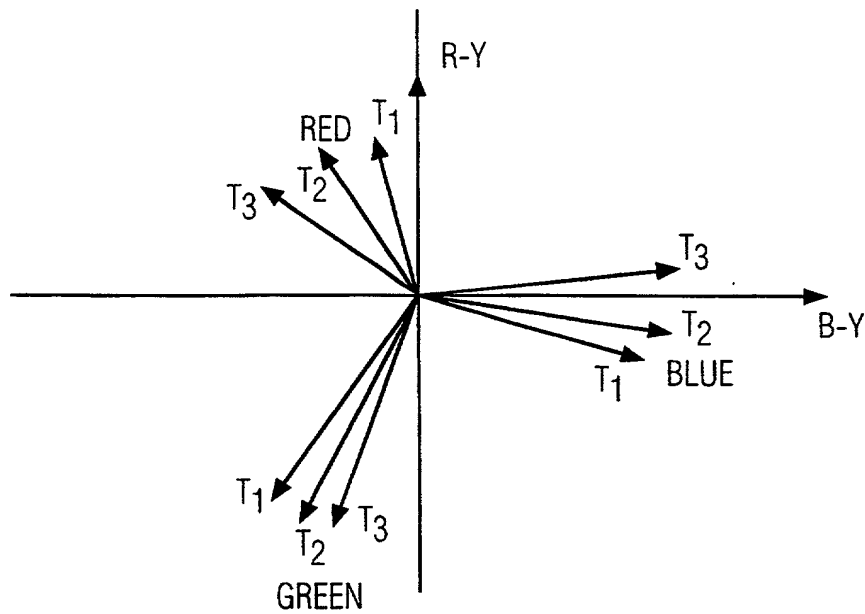


FIG. 1

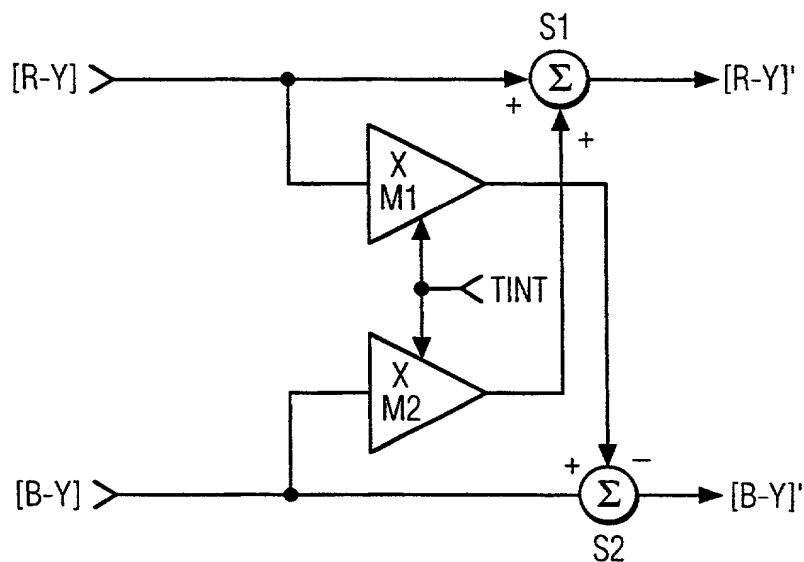


FIG. 2

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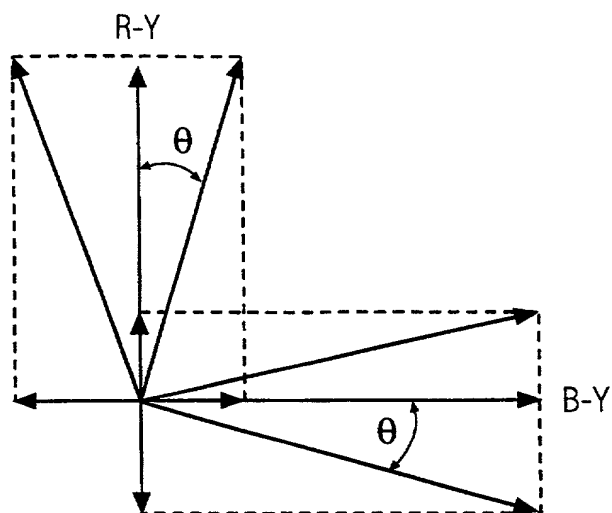


FIG. 3

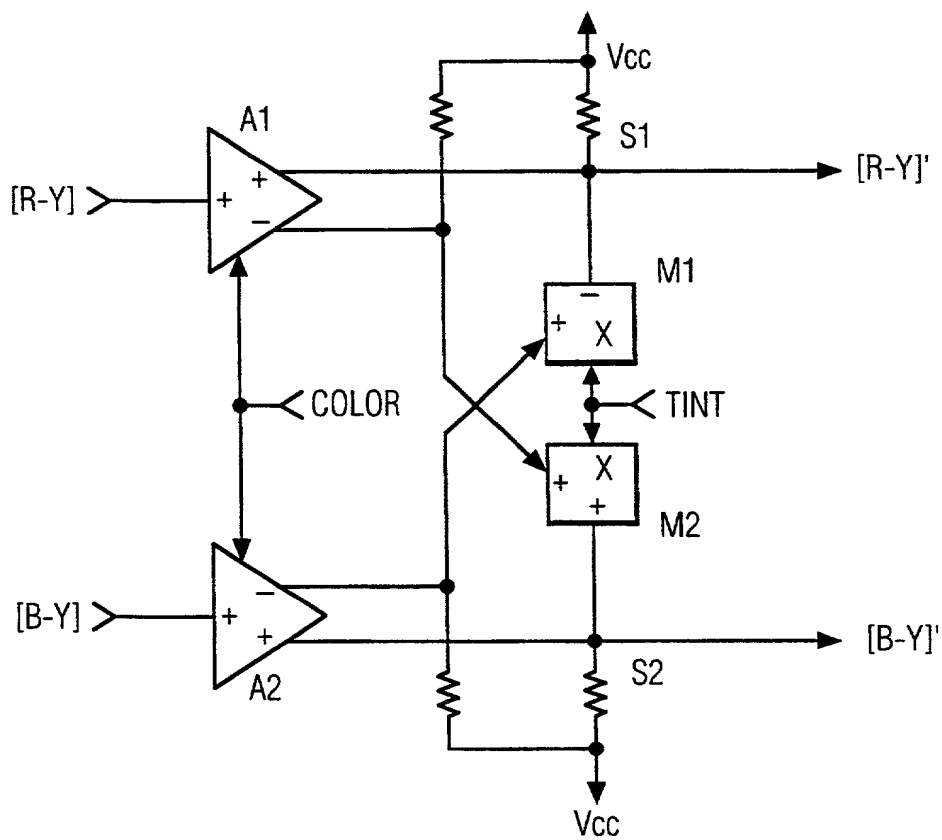


FIG. 4



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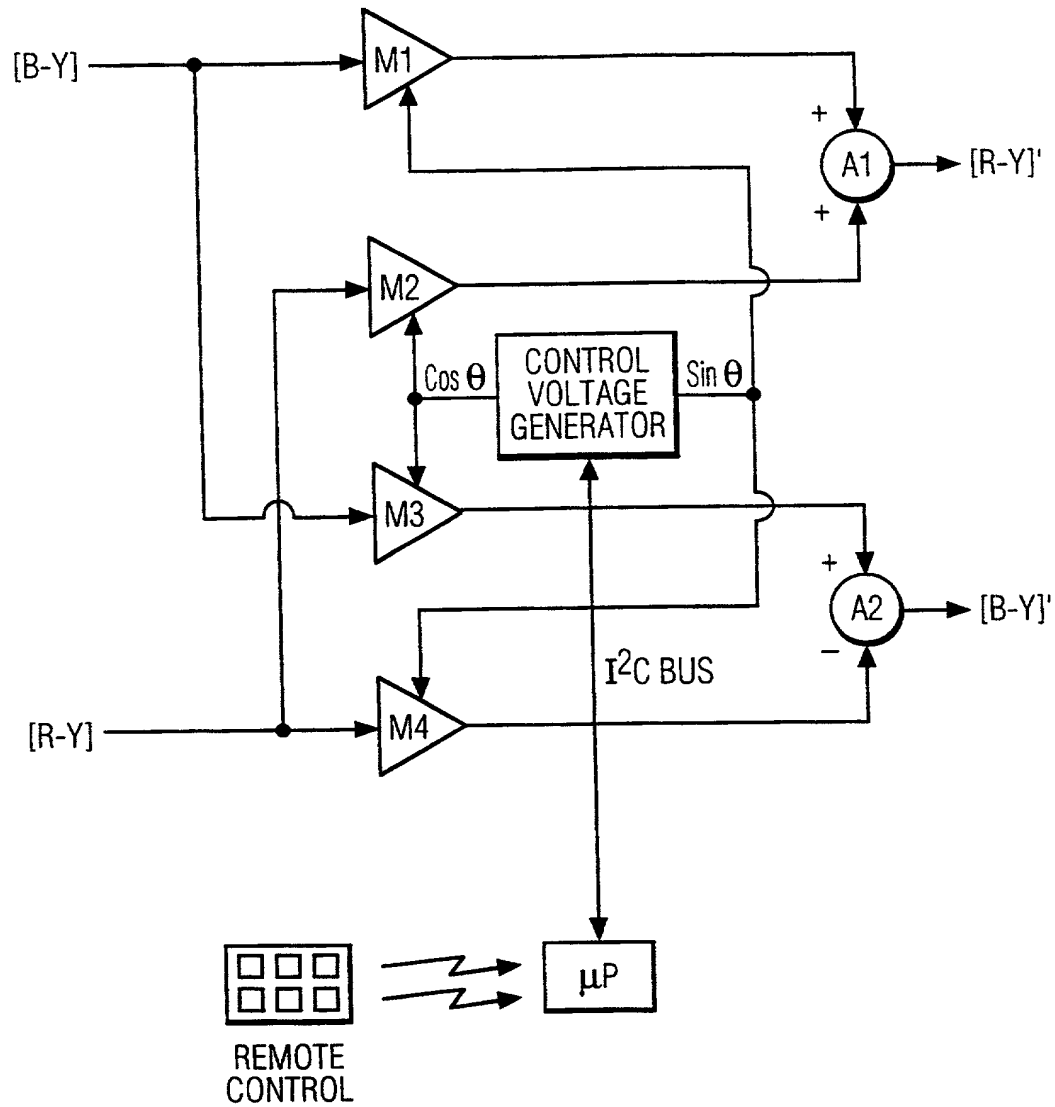


FIG. 5

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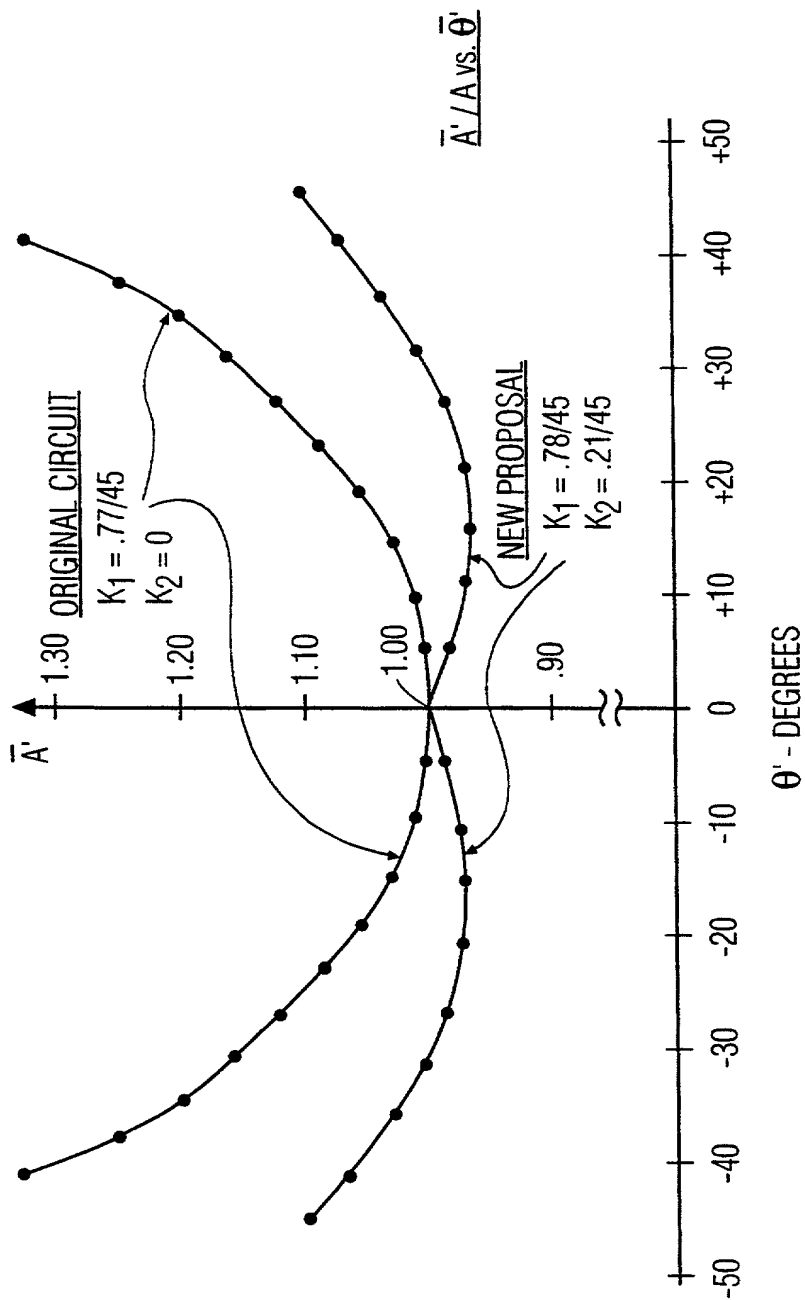


FIG. 6

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**DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR  
DESIGN  
PATENT APPLICATION  
(37 CFR 1.63)**

☐ Declaration Submitted with Initial Filing OR ☒ Declaration Submitted after Initial Filing (surcharge (37 CFR 1.16 (e)) required)

**Attorney Docket Number** RCA 86464  
**First Named Inventor** Robert Dale Altmanshofer

**COMPLETE IF KNOWN**

**Application Number**

**Filing Date**

**Group Art Unit**

**Examiner Name**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare

My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

COLOR DIFFERENCE HUE CONTROL SYSTEM

the specification of which (Title of the Invention)

☐ is attached hereto  
OR

☒ was filed on (MM/DD/YYYY)

December 29, 1997

as United States Application Number or PCT International

Application Number

PCT/US97/24211

and was amended on (MM/DD/YYYY)

December 15, 1999

(if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or of any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Priority Not Claimed	Certified Copy Attached?	
				YES	NO
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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U. S. Parent Application or PCT Parent Number	Parent Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Parent Patent Number (if applicable)
PCT/US97/24211	December 29, 1997	

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OR

☒ Registered practitioner(s) name/registration number listed below

Place Customer  
Number Bar Code  
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Name	Registration Number	Name	Registration Number
JOSEPH S. TRIPOLI	26,040		
JOSEPH J. LAKS	27,914		
PAUL P. KIEL	40,677		

☐ Additional registered practitioner(s) named on supplemental Registered Practitioner Information sheet PTO/SB/02C attached hereto.

Direct all correspondence to:

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Bar Code Label

OR ☒ Correspondence address below

Name	Joseph S. Tripoli - Patent Operations				
Address	THOMSON multimedia Licensing Inc.				
Address	PO Box 5312				
City	Princeton	State	NJ	ZIP	08540
Country	US	Telephone	609-734-9650	Fax	609-734-9700

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Name of Sole or First Inventor:

☐ A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor

Given Name (first and middle (if any))		Family Name or Surname					
ROBERT DALE		ALTMANSHOFER					
Inventor's Signature	<i>Robert Dale Altmanshofer</i>		Date	10/17/00			
Residence: City	Carmel	State	IN	Country	US	Citizenship	US
Post Office Address	921 Ashton Place						
Post Office Address	Carmel, Indiana 46033 US						
City		State		ZIP		Country	

☒ Additional inventors are being named on the 1 supplemental Additional Inventor(s) sheet(s) PTO/SB/02A attached hereto

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## DECLARATION

ADDITIONAL INVENTOR(S)  
Supplemental Sheet  
Page 1 of 1

Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor					
Given Name (first and middle [if any])				Family Name or Surname			
WILLIAM ADAMSON				LAGONI			
Inventor's Signature						Date	
Residence: City	Indianapolis	State	IN	Country	US	Citizenship	US
Post Office Address	4704 West 81st Place						
Post Office Address	Indianapolis, Indiana 46268 US						
City		State		ZIP		Country	
Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor					
Given Name (first and middle [if any])				Family Name or Surname			
Inventor's Signature						Date	
Residence: City		State		Country		Citizenship	
Post Office Address							
Post Office Address							
City		State		ZIP		Country	
Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor					
Given Name (first and middle [if any])				Family Name or Surname			
Inventor's Signature						Date	
Residence: City		State		Country		Citizenship	
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